OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: December 17, 1963

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: WARREN COMMISSION

ASSASSINATION OF THE PRESIDENT

Mr. J. Lee Rankin telephonically advised that as a result of the meeting of the Commission on Monday afternoon there would be a formal request in writing for the raw reports of the Bureau which would back up the material that the Bureau has furnished to the Commission. Mr. Rankin was advised that based on the publicity given to the Commission's meeting yesterday this material is being gotten together and would be forthcoming as soon as possible. Mr. Rankin advised that there had been some difficulty on the part of the Commission members in understanding some of the handwriting specimens and would like to get a clarification on this. Malley has an appointment with Mr. Rankin today at 4:00 p.m., at which time sufficient details will be obtained in order to clarify this.

Mr. Rankin stated the Commission was interested in obtaining data concerning the income tax returns of Jack Rubenstein, also known as Jack Ruby, and Oswald as well as Mrs. Ruth Paine of Irving, Texas, and that these returns should cover a number of years. This will be further clarified with Rankin today.

Mr. Rankin advised that the Commission was very much interested in the medical reports relative to the shooting of the President, both the results of the examination at Parkland Hospital, Dallas, Texas, as well as the medical reports from the U. S. Naval Hospital, Bethesda, Maryland. Rankin was advised that the reports from the Parkland Hospital were readily available and had been included in one of our reports; however, the medical report from the U. S. Naval Hospital at Bethesda was not in the possession of the Bureau and had not been included inasmuch as the President's family had indicated a desire that the report be kept confidential. The medical report from the Bethesda Hospital is in the possession of Secret Service and can be obtained upon asking. This will be further discussed with Rankin today.

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Mr. Rankin mentioned that the Commission was also interested in any postal money orders that had been sent or received by either Ruby or Oswald. It is known that the Bureau has already developed a good deal of information concerning the non-existence of money orders in the Dallas, Texas, area and the Commission's request for money orders will be further clarified today.

With reference to the report prepared by the Bureau, copies of which were delivered to the various members of the Commission, Mr. Rankin indicated that he would like to obtain an additional twenty copies of this report along with the exhibits that were sent with the reports. Mr. Rankin was advised that Malley was not aware of the exact number of copies that were in existence, and Rankin immediately replied that if half this number of copies could be made available it would be very helpful. There are in existence and readily available at the present time twenty-one copies of the report and the exhibits.

ACTION:

If approved, ten copies of report previously furnished the members of the Commission as well as the exhibits will be made available to Mr. Rankin.

Yes.

ADDENDUM (AHB:hm) 12/17/63: Supervisor Papich, through [redacted] of CIA, picked up comments by Allen Dulles to the effect that Rankin is considering an investigative staff to conduct additional investigation. Also, the Commission will consider relations between various Federal agencies to see if there are defects and whether these should be corrected by legislation. Also, the Commission will be in business for a long time and will cover a broad field and may even talk to some of our Agents who conducted investigation of the assassination and Ruby cases.

Frankly, I think Rankin should be discouraged from having an investigative staff and that Mr. Malley should make it clear to him

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we stand ready to run out any additional investigative leads the Commission wants covered. In this light, it may be well to give Rankin only ten additional copies of the report at this time.